REMARKS

Favorable consideration and allowance are requested for claims 8-14 and 17 in view of the following remarks.

Status of the Application

Claims 8-14 and 17 are pending in this application. Claims 1-7, 15, and 16 were previously withdrawn. Claims 8-14 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112. ¶ 2. Claims 8-13 have been amended.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2

Based on the amendments to claims 8-13, applicants respectfully submit that the outstanding rejection has been rendered moot and that the claims are now in condition for allowance.

* * * * *

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #056207.53098US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 14, 2007

/Michael H. JACOBS, Reg. No. 41.870/ James F. McKeown Registration No. 25,406 Michael H. Jacobs Registration No. 41,870

CROWELL & MORING LLP Intellectual Property Group P.O. Box 14300 Washington, DC 20044-4300 Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500 Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844

JFM:MHJ:msy